

VZCZCXRO7405
OO RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH
DE RUEHGO #0284 0751031
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 161031Z MAR 07
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5871
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1372
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0230
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 4505
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 3800
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7326
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 4878
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0071
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 1081
RUEHCN/AMCONSUL CHENGDU 1096
RUDKIA/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 0925
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHDC
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHPH/CDC ATLANTA GA
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

UNCLAS RANGOON 000284

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/MLS, G/AIAG; PACOM FOR FPA; USDA FOR
FAS/PECAD, FAS/CNMP, FAS/AAD, APHIS; BANGKOK FOR
USAID:JMACARTHUR, APHIS:NCARDENAS, REO:JWALLER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [AMED](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [TBIO](#) [KFLU](#) [BM](#)
SUBJECT: BURMA AI UPDATE: FURTHER STEPS IN OUTBREAK RESPONSE

REF: RANGOON 00274

11. (U) Burmese officials reported no new outbreaks of Avian Influenza among birds on March 16. On March 13, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) Director General notified OIE that PCR tests confirm the earlier announcement that Avian Influenza caused the March 10-11 poultry deaths on farms in three Rangoon townships (reftel). Officials culled all remaining poultry at these farms. No suspected human cases have been reported.

12. (SBU) On March 15, WHO AI Coordinator Jum Coninx reported that Ministry of Health and LBVD personnel had begun to coordinate and share information more closely. She credited this progress, at least partially, to pressure by WHO, FAO and USAID.

13. (U) The GOB announced the poultry deaths in the government media on March 13, with advice on safe practices in handling sick or dead birds. LBVD also announced that poultry breeders and farm workers should not visit poultry markets or shops, and that outside visitor should not visit poultry farms.

14. (U) Also, in an attempt to minimize confusion, the press reported the causes of death for numerous pigeons, crows and one sparrow. The report said the majority died of heat stroke, chronic respiratory disease, enteritis, pigeon pox, injury and food poisoning, and that the deaths were unrelated to bird flu. LBVD reported a decline in the number of wild bird deaths.

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